



AFDCS 2021

Board of Directors Election Newsletter

The voter turnout after last year's special edition of *First Days* was so good, so much better, than in recent elections that we decided to again publish a special newsletter for the annual Board of Directors election, even though our journal is back on schedule.

This year, there are six candidates for four seats. They are (in random order):

- **Shirley Ulling** of California;
- **Lorraine Bailey** of Virginia;
- **Michael Moticha** of California;
- **Michael Lake** of Massachusetts;
- **Ralph Nafziger** of Oregon, and;
- **Cynthia Scott** of Indiana.

The Nominating Committee was chaired by Michael Litvak, and filled out by Mark Goodson and Bob Lewin. The Election Committee (vote-counting) is chaired by Otto Thamasett, with assistance from Neal Parr and Jack Ginsburg.

Each year, the members of the AFDCS vote for four three-year seats. Other members of the Board may include, *ex officio*, the President, General Counsel, and Editor. Since those three may also be elected to the Board in their own right (e.g., Lloyd de Vries is president, but also was elected to the Board separately), the exact number of Directors may vary from 12 to 15.

The Board, in turn, elects officers — President, Executive Vice President, First Vice President, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer — plus a Chair of the Board, all for one-year terms. All terms begin on January 1st. All of this, and more, is spelled out in our Bylaws, which you can find at afdcs.org/bylaws.html

However, your part is simple:

**Vote for four candidates or fewer
by December 1st.**

Enclose nothing else in the envelope with your ballot, and mail it to Otto's address, given on the ballot. Ballots mailed to other addresses may not be counted; membership renewals and orders for FDCs and publications sent with ballots may be delayed.

While we have your attention (and to fill up extra space on this front page)...

A Few Other News Items

- Great American Stamp Show was a Great Success for the AFDCS. We gained 11 members and sold thousands of FDCs. GASS had “only” 2,500 registered visitors.

- AFDCS members won seven large-gold awards in the Americover exhibit competition during GASS, and a FDC exhibit was the Most Popular of the year.

- GASS 2022 will be held August 25-28 in Sacramento, California.

- This year's Court of Honor Cachet is based on a Staehle patriotic.

- The latest information about the AFDCS shows up first on our website in the News Blog: afdcs.org/newsblog.html.



Shirley Ulling (*California*)

I began collecting U.S. and worldwide stamps when I was 8 years old, later adding Fleetwood FDCs. I took a short break from collecting in my mid-20s, before returning in my 30s.

At that time, I started my topical collection, beginning with whales, dolphins, seals, penguins, and puffins. I later expanded my topics to include

Star Trek, Star Wars, Superman, and other DC characters.

In 2000, I decided to make my own cover to commemorate the Celebrate the Century train, which was traveling across the country. I had the three covers serviced in White Fish, Montana, one of the train's stops. Shortly after that, I joined the Claude C. Ries Southern California Chapter and the AFDCS. I produce cachets under the name of Bee & Shirley Cachet Designers. I recently designed 25 covers as a fundraiser for the Penguins on Stamps Study Unit of the ATA.

I am a Director of the American Ceremony Program Society, and was a volunteer member of the AFDCS Auction Committee for about 15 years. When the AFDCS held its annual Americover convention in Irvine, CA in 2012, I created the cover given to the attendees of the pre-convention tour to San Juan Capistrano. Over the years, I have volunteered to assist at many of the conventions by helping at the Registration Table, the Hospitality Suite, and elsewhere when needed.

It would be my privilege to become a member of the AFDCS Board of Directors, and to help the AFDCS continue to grow and educate the public about the pleasures of collecting First Day Covers.



Lorraine Bailey (*Virginia*)

I joined the AFDCS on May 9, 1975 and became life member #123 in October 1977. I am also an Honorary Life Member #22. I have served on the Board of Directors since 1996 and took a short break in 2015. I handled Sales and Cachet Production for about 20 years. I am now serving with Jim Tatum on the Awards Committee.

Professionally, I was a court reporter for twenty years and then was a swimming instructor for 22 years. I collect FDCs up to 1967, although I have other "stuff" up to 1999. I also collect France, French Offices abroad, former French Colonies, and Scandinavia. I speak fluent French, a good deal of Spanish, as well as a bit of three other languages. I have been to France 22 times and, most recently, the Falkland Islands and Antarctica.



Michael W. Moticha (*California*)

I have always made the point to ensure that my activities with this wonderful hobby have continued to be fun, enjoyable, and exciting. From grade school through a career in the United States Army, and retirement, and while raising a family, I have maintained my quest for stamps, covers and collections. My areas of interest include the

Military, United Nations, Canada, Israel, Plate Number Coils, Plate Blocks, FDCs, Ceremony Programs and Deck Cards, with none of them more important than the others. My accumulation, not a collection, is my life's work.

In 2007 I walked into a Ries Chapter meeting at a show and joined, followed by the AFDCS. People I meet, share stories with, and organizations I join and volunteer for, make this philatelic journey so much more enjoyable. I am currently on the chapter's board, serve as Chapter Representative, am on the AFDCS Auction committee and help with the Americover Hospitality Suite Silent Auction. I have recently become a member of the AFDCS Honors and Awards Committee.

My other philatelic societies include the APS, Plate Number Coil Collectors Club, the Wilksburg Stamp Club (PA), ACPS, and ASPPP.

My goals for the AFDCS include growing the membership by promoting our youth and asking the USPS to again promote stamp collecting in the schools; and make the hobby fun, enjoyable, and exciting. By promoting the large shows, and requesting the USPS to have more First Day ceremonies at stamp shows, we might interest more people.



Michael Lake (*Massachusetts*)

I've served less than a year on the Board. My approach thus far has been to be engaged, learn from my fellow Board members, and to be responsible in casting votes on all matters in an expeditious fashion.

I have already teamed up with fellow Board member Kris McIntosh on our education efforts. I assisted Bob

Lewin for the first virtual presentation on pioneer cachetmaker George Laffert. I'll continue to contribute my knowledge and expertise in this area.

I have been a member of the AFDCS for 33 years. My main collecting focus is ArtCraft cachet varieties. I have authored several feature articles, and I write a regular column in *First Days* on the subject. And I have officially joined Marty Severe as co-author on *The Comprehensive Listing of ArtCraft Covers*.

I also collect US new issue UOs and FDOI ceremonies as well as cachets for Sc 3137 Bugs Bunny and Sc 3507 Peanuts. I am a member in good standing of the APS and APRL, ACPS, PMCC, and the Connecticut Cover Club.

I will continue to be a part of AFDCS' entry into the virtual space; furthering our strong relationship with the US Postal Service; and supporting continued efforts for the AFDCS to work alongside other philatelic societies. Ultimately, I am running for the opportunity to help steward the longevity of AFDCS.

Thank you for reading this and the other candidates' statements, and for taking the time to vote. This is our Society, and it takes only a few minutes to cast a ballot.



Ralph H. Nafziger (Oregon)

The FDC collecting bug bit me in 1948. Throughout the 1950s and 1960s, I serviced my own FDCs. I joined the AFDCS in 1977.

Since 1980, I have published many articles in *First Days* and in other philatelic publications. In 2006, I received the Ward Award, and have received Honorable Mention several other times.

Since 1980, I have exhibited extensively, winning medals and special awards at local, regional, and national shows. In 2010, I won the Grand Award at Americover. I am an AFDCS, AAPE, and APS life member, and a member of several other philatelic societies. I am past president of the Auxiliary Markings Club, the awards chair for PIPEX, and serve on the AFDCS Board of Directors, the Executive Committee as recording secretary, and as a contributing editor for *First Days*. I am a recipient of the AFDCS Glenn Michel and the Distinguished Service Awards. I won the Northwest Distinguished Philatelist Award in 2012.

I am a retired research chemist/supervisor with the U.S. Bureau of Mines. I graduated from the University of Wisconsin, and earned a PhD in geochemistry from Pennsylvania State University. I have many professional publications and presentations, and have received various professional awards.

In addition to philately, my hobbies include astronomy, old car restoration, hiking, snowshoeing, and traveling. I play horn in a municipal concert band.

If I am elected, I would like to explore new means to increase interest in FDC collecting, to increase AFDCS membership, and encourage FDC exhibiting and writing for *First Days*.



Cynthia Scott (Indiana)

I thank those who allowed me (by voting) to return to active service for the American First Day Cover Society on the Board of Directors in 2018. I served as Chairman of the Board during this past term. If not chosen for this task again, perhaps I can serve in other Board positions or assist with committee activities. I welcome ques-

tions, concerns, and suggestions from members about their first day cover interests.

I served on the board previously for 15 years ending in 2009. My list of other AFDCS volunteer experiences has not changed much in the past three years, but I offer a recap of what went before: 1988-2016 Cover Exchange column in *First Days*, 1996-2011 Complaints & Ethics Chair, 2007-2009 Board of Directors Recording Secretary, 2001-2009 Maker of Exhibit Award objects, 2001-2010 and 2021 Maker of Service Award objects, 2001-2021 (continuing) Maker of Philip H Ward certificates, 2002-2008 Exhibits Chair, 2004-2006 Americover Chair, 2008-2011 Assistant to Americover Chair, and 2004-2016 Registrar for Americover.

I am a military veteran who retired in June of 2007 after thirty+ years in the Nevada Air National Guard and the U.S. Air Force. I next put my logistics training to use for Indiana University (at Columbus) in their office of Registrar Services. After 13 years there, I retired again in February 2020.

Ever the perennial student, I am still taking university courses—this time in pursuit of a second bachelor's degree. Between study time, I still want to write philatelic articles and make new exhibits. I welcome all pushes from others to keep me contributing to our hobby.

OFFICIAL BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS

Four members of the board of directors will be elected. **Vote for no more than four of the candidates listed on the ballot** (back side of this page). Fewer candidates may be chosen. Ballots with more than four choices will be disqualified. Any copy of the ballot is acceptable.

To vote:

1. Mark your candidate choices (no more than four) on the ballot.
2. Place the completed ballot in an envelope and seal it.
3. Place your name and AFDCS membership number

on the back of the envelope. Ballot envelopes without a membership number will be disqualified.

4. Postmark the envelope with your ballot by December 1, 2021.

Do not include any other correspondence with your ballot.

Mail ballots to:

AFDCS Election Committee

c/o Otto Thamasett

6025 Sherborn Lane

Springfield, VA 22152-1643

Vote for no more than 4 candidates.
Candidate names are listed in random order.

☐ **Shirley Ulling**

☐ **Lorraine Bailey**

☐ **Michael Moticha**

☐ **Michael Lake**

☐ **Ralph Nafziger**

☐ **Cynthia Scott**

☐ _____

☐ _____

Mail ballots to:

AEDCS Election Committee
c/o Otto Thamsett
6025 Sherborn Lane
Springfield, VA 22152-1643



American First Day Cover Society
PO Box 246
Colonial Beach, VA 22443-0246